July 5, 2006

STREET SMART



Meeting Summary of the SANBAG Board of Directors

San Bernardino Associated Governments ■ 1170 W. 3rd St., 2nd Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92410 ■ (909) 884-8276

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Grade separation projects to advance in SB, Montclair



Cars line up waiting for trains to cross near State Street/University Parkway.

SANBAG will acquire property to allow work to start on the State Street/University Parkway grade separation in San Bernardino and will begin serving as the lead agency for the construction of the Ramona Avenue grade separation in Montclair.

These projects will eliminate traffic delays at railroad crossings at these two locations by separating the train tracks from the local streets by building bridges.

Board members approved the acquisition of 12 properties near the State Street grade separation project that spans both the City of San Bernardino and Muscoy, using the eminent domain process. The Board adopted a Resolution of Necessity to exercise right of eminent domain to acquire the properties. This will allow SANBAG to gain possession of the properties in a timely manner and proceed with the project, which is tentatively scheduled to start construction during the first half of 2007 and last 18 to 24 months.

In separate action, the Board approved SANBAG to be the lead agency for the Ramona Avenue grade separation. The City of Montclair has served as the project lead through environmental clearance, design and right-of-way phases, but has asked SANBAG to be the lead for construction. The project is set to start construction by the end of 2006 and take about two years to complete.

■ SANBAG seeks proposals for US 395 work

SANBAG will be advertising for firms to submit proposals to prepare an Environmental Impact Report for the realignment of US Highway 395 through the Victor Valley. Proposals are due July 31, and work is expected to begin in mid-September.

The EIR will identify a preferred alignment for the highway. Local jurisdictions, including Adelanto, Victorville, Hesperia and the County of San Bernardino, will use the EIR to adopt the preferred alignment into their General Plans so that they can preserve right-of-way from development.

The goal is to complete the EIR by fall 2007 so that jurisdictions, residents and business owners will know the future alignment of the highway and plan around it.



■ Jacobs Engineering to aid with I-215 construction

The Board approved a four-year, \$3.3 million contract for construction management services with Jacobs Engineering for the Interstate 215 5th Street bridge project in San Bernardino.

Jacobs will team with HDR and Vali Cooper for the contract, which begins this month and will end in early 2010. The Riverside-based firm was selected from five firms that submitted proposals.

The 5th Street bridge is an early project in the widening of Interstate 215 north of Interstate 10. Crews will leave the existing bridge in place while building the north half of the new, wider bridge. They then will demolish the old bridge, and then build the new south half.

The wider bridge requires regrading and elevating the existing street and elevating the intersections with H Street and J Street. Freeway lane closures and ramp closures, weekend closures and a six-month closure of the 4th Street northbound onramp all will be required.

Down the road ...

- July 13: Major Projects Committee, 9 a.m.
- July 19: Plans & Programs Committee, 12 noon
- July 20: Commuter Rail Committee, 12 noon
- July 21: Mountain-Desert Committee, 9 a.m.



Freeway Service Patrol program to expand

Grant will provide free motorist aid service on Route 60, Interstate 215

Hang on...Help is on the way for even more motorists in the San Bernardino Valley through the Freeway Service Patrol. A grant totaling \$804,240 from the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee will allow the FSP to expand to new areas of San Bernardino County, probably by early next year.

SANBAG began its patrols in January 2006 on Interstate 10 and on Interstate 15 to serve drivers during weekday peak commute hours. The fleet of roving tow trucks travel on local freeways to offer free aid to motorists with vehicle trouble. The MSRC grant will allow service to expand to Route 60 and Interstate 215. In addition, SANBAG has acquired new state funds and will be exploring ways later this month to expand the program even further.

This month's *Street Smart* examines the Freeway Service Patrol in the San Bernardino Valley and highlights the future of this service.

Freeway Service Patrol History

SANBAG administers the Freeway Service Patrol program, with help from Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol, which oversees daily operations. Service began January 3 on sections of I-10 and I-15 covering 33.5 miles. Service is in place now on:

- Interstate 10 from the San Bernardino County/Los Angeles County line in Montclair to Waterman Avenue in San Bernardino
- Interstate 15 from the San Bernardino County/Riverside County line near Ontario to Base Line Road in Rancho Cucamonga

SANBAG has received state funds and contributed Measure I half-cent sales tax funds to contract with Armada Towing of San Bernardino and Pepe's Towing Service of Colton for this service. Tow operators travel I-10 and I-15 during peak morning and afternoon commute hours to fix flat tires, jump-start dead batteries, refill radiators or make other minor mechanical repairs, all free of charge. If the operator cannot fix the problem at roadside, they tow the vehicles to locations adjacent to the freeway that are designated by the CHP, again at no cost to the

driver.

Since the program began six months ago, the need has been great. More than 9,000 offers of help have been given to local motorists. This help has included fixing 1,500 flat tires, aiding with 600 freeway accidents and cooling down 500 overheated engines.



Daniel Urcadiz of Armada Towing helps drivers in distress through SANBAG's Freeway Service Patrol program, which started in January.



Program to Grow

The Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee made available \$3.95 million for FSP projects in San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles and Orange counties last month, and SANBAG secured \$804,240 to expand its program. SANBAG will contribute an additional \$268,080 in state funding to expand the service to sections of Route 60 and Interstate 215 by early next year. These funds will cover about three years of service.

The new service will be implemented on Route 60 from the San Bernardino County/Los Angeles County line in Chino to Milliken Avenue in Rancho Cucamonga, a distance of about 10 miles. Service also will be added to Interstate 215 from the San Bernardino County/Riverside County line in Grand Terrace to 2nd Street in San Bernardino, about seven miles.

In addition, new state funds will allow service to begin in two additional locations in the San Bernardino Valley, but these locations are still to be determined. During this month's Plans & Programs Policy Committee meeting, committee members will be asked to approve a Request for Proposals from firms that wish to submit proposals for the Route 60 service, the Interstate 215 service and the two other locations to be determined. If the committee approves the RFQ, the full SANBAG Board of Directors will be asked to consider this item in August.